

Kindly amend the subject application as follows:

In the Claims:

1. (Three Times Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3.

2. (Four Times Amended) An *in vitro* method for expanding hematopoietic cells, the method comprising contacting the cells with a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- FI
- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
 - (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3.

3. (Twice Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, G-CSF and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3.

4. (Twice Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, GM-CSF and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3.

5. (Twice Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, SF and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause

hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3.

6. (Twice Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, EPO and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3.

F1 7. (Twice Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, a GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion protein and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3.

8. (Twice Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, IL-6 and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3.

Cancel claims 9-16.

Sub G3 19. (Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and ~~FUNCTIONAL ANALOGUE~~
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

20. (Amended) An *in vitro* method for expanding hematopoietic cells, the method comprising contacting the cells with a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

21. (Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, G-CSF and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

22. (Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, GM-CSF and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

23. (Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, SF and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

24. (Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, EPO and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3-ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

Sub G3
25. (Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion protein and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3 polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

F1
26. (Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, IL-6 and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3 polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

Cancel claim 27 and 28.

29. (Twice Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium, a cellular growth factor and a Flt3-ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3 polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to a polypeptide comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.

30. (Amended) An *in vitro* method for expanding hematopoietic cells, the method comprising contacting the cells with a Flt3-ligand polypeptide and a cellular growth factor in amounts sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the flt3-ligand is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) polypeptides that are at least 90% identical to the amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; and
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of (a), wherein the fragment binds flt3.